

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for introducing user-defined (e.g., proprietary) signals into a standard backplane. In addition to standardized connectorization, at least one of the front side connector segments or at least one of the rear side connector segments is provided with additional non-standard connector holes, thereby forming an extra-wide segment. The inclusion of extra contact points in a connector segment allows for supporting an independent signal pathway to carry one or more user-defined signals across the backplane, in addition to the standard bus signals, without sacrificing compliance with the applicable bus standard.